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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Communist China

SUBJECT Propaganda Among Chinese Abroad

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1. A conference of the "Commission for Chinese Overseas Affairs" was held in Peiping in the latter part of Nov 1953. The meeting was attended by 412 delegates from Southeast Asia, Korea, Mongolia, Japan, Europe, North and South America, Africa, and Oceania.
2. The president of this chamber is Ho Hsiang'ning. At the end of the conference he made a proposal, with the approval of the Chinese Foreign Office, to the following effect: "Through a change in the election law, Chinese abroad are offered the opportunity of choosing their own representatives in the All-Chinese People's Congress. The number of representatives will be fixed according to the strength of the respective Chinese national groups. Smaller Chinese colonies may consolidate and elect delegates in common."
3. For the time being, provision is made for giving the foreign Chinese 30 delegates, distributed as follows: Malaya, 5; Thailand, 4; Indonesia, 4; Vietnam (with Khmer and Pathet Lao), 2; America, 2; Burma, North Borneo and Sarawak, Philippines, Korea and Mongolia, Japan, India and Pakistan, Europe, Africa, Oceania, one each. Four seats are reserved to be filled later. The first delegates are to be chosen during 1954.
4. At the same time a program for the guidance of overseas Chinese in their countries of sojourn was formulated. Here there is a public program and a confidential one. The public program calls for "strengthening of the cohesion and unity within the Chinese colonies; maintenance of friendly relations with their host peoples and observance of their laws and regulations". The confidential program was only called to the delegates' attention in a short discussion, and then was laid aside. It is concerned with the intervention activities of the Peiping regime in the internal affairs of the host countries.

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Red China

5. **Comment.** A struggle to win the allegiance of the millions of Chinese abroad has been going on between Chian Kai-shek and the Peiping regime. Chiang could only make promises for the future. Peiping's decision to give the overseas Chinese representation in Parliament could have far-reaching results. To be sure, they appear problematical; because large numbers of overseas Chinese claim definite citizenship in their host lands and call themselves--in Malaya for example--the "King of England's Chinese." Only in countries like Malaya and Thailand, where the Chinese are discriminated against, will the Red Chinese scheme exert a counter force. The inclusion of overseas representatives in Parliament is significant from three points of view:
- It makes it possible for the Peiping government to support the overseas Chinese indirectly, and directly through diplomatic representations, in which special rights will be demanded for the delegates of the Chinese colonies, and possibly Chinese diplomatic passports issued.
 - In this way Peiping will be in a position to avert a covert political or propagandistic influence.
 - Parliamentary representation for overseas Chinese is the beginning of a Greater Asia five-year program proceeding from Peiping, which will run until 1958, to create a compact political, economic and racial system.

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